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From: Rik Lantz
Sent: Fri 5/6/2016 9:04:22 PM
Subject: USS Lead - Weekly update 5/6/2016
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USS Lead Weekly Update – 5/6/2016

The USS Lead project team continued to collect samples in Zone 3 and conduct XRF screening of the new samples collected since remobilizing to the site at the beginning of April. Here's where we stand on 5/6:

1. Sampling metrics: There are 463 properties in Zone 3, and we sampled 343 of them before the winter demob. Of the remaining 120:

∇ Properties sampled since remob: 50 [14 properties sampled this week]

∇ Properties with access, not yet sampled: 10 [8 new access agreements last week]

∇ Properties without access: 42

∇ Properties with access denied: 18

The field team made good progress getting access that we did not previously have – 8 new ones this week. We will continue to work on getting the local folks to allow us to sample their properties. In addition, we are compiling a listing of all the 'recalcitrant' properties where we don't yet have access; many of these are vacant lots, paved over entirely and so forth.

2. Missing TCLP data: We compiled the data for the locations where lab data that suggests the material may fail TCLP testing, but we do not have TCLP data to verify one way or the other, and forwarded to the group last week. We defined "may fail TCLP testing" as Pb from a lab sample > 2,000 mg/kg. We still need to review this data and determine whether additional sampling for TCLP testing is merited on a case-by-case basis. We would like to hold such a discussion soon, since we are running out of new properties to sample.

3. XRF issues: By conducting some field testing, we believe that we have isolated the XRF

issues that we have experienced to some characteristic of the particular soil samples we were dealing with rather than an issue with the field instruments or methodology. We had several laboratory performance samples on hand where we knew the certified concentration of Pb and As, so we put these in ziploc bags and XRF screened them in the same manner as we were screening our actual samples. XRF results for the laboratory performance samples were right about what the certificates said they were supposed to be, so we believe that the field screening process appears to be accurate, isolating the issue to the field samples we are screening. We have found we are able to reduce the variability reported by the instrument to an acceptable range by exposing the field samples to XRF for longer periods. Accordingly, we are switching to a longer exposure time for the XRF (from three “shots” in different parts of the sample of 30 seconds each to three “shots” of 60 seconds each). We will send samples that have already been analyzed that exhibited high variance for laboratory analysis because our field results suggest that the existing XRF screening may not accurately reflect actual concentrations for As in these selected samples. Note that the high variance is an issue observed only since we remobilized to the field; samples submitted through the end of 2015 did not exhibit the same issue.

4. Design document: We continue to work on completing the pre-final design document.

5. Schedule: We continue to sample and XRF our backlog of soils from the properties sampled so far, and plan to forward XRF results for samples analyzed so far to Chemours on Monday. We are finalizing our review of Chemours data validation reports and a document that details the results of our review will undergo internal review shortly. We hope to have a draft report summarizing our review shortly, which EPA may choose to share with Chemours.

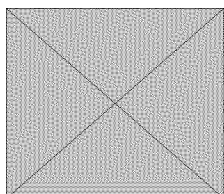
6. Fortnightly call: The next fortnightly call is scheduled for Monday 5/16 at 2:00 Central. If you have a particular issue you would like to discuss, please forward it to me.

Have a fabulous weekend,

Thanks,
Rik

Rik Lantz, P.G., LEED-AP

Director of Environmental Services



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